

SENATE BILL 2093

By Pody

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 47 and Title 65, relative to social media.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that Tennesseans increasingly rely on social media platforms to express their opinions on a number of issues; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that social media platforms that unfairly censor, ban, deplatform, or apply post-prioritization algorithms to political candidates or other users are not acting in good faith; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that this State has a substantial interest in protecting its residents from such actions by social media platforms; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1.

(a) The Tennessee advisory commission on intergovernmental relations (TACIR) is directed to perform a study on social media deplatforming that has occurred in this state and other states. The study must include, at a minimum, a review of approaches taken by other states to address social media deplatforming and a list of legal or fiscal issues resulting from pursuing those approaches. This study must be conducted from TACIR's existing resources.

(b) All appropriate state departments and agencies shall provide assistance to TACIR.

(c) On or before January 1, 2023, TACIR shall report its findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the speaker of the house of representatives, the speaker of the senate, and the legislative librarian.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.